

COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS



Week of June 22, 2020

Mobile Crisis Response, Food Security Fund, Interagency Commission on Homelessness, Charter Review Commission, Germantown Plan for the Town Sector Zone, Covid-19 County Public Health Planning, Local Business Preference Program, E-Scooters

Council Coming Attractions is a summary of some of the issues before the Council. All Council staff reports and additional information on each item scheduled for Council or Committee review can be viewed at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html>

The Council meeting schedule may change from time to time. The current Council and Committee agendas can also be viewed at:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html>

The Council will hold a virtual meeting on Tuesday, June 23 at 9:30 a.m.

COUNCIL

Special appropriation to the County Government's Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services, DD Supplement Expansion - \$592,202 for Mobile Crisis Response

On June 23 at 9:30 a.m. the Council will introduce a special appropriation of \$542,202 to the FY21 operating budget of the County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to expand mobile crisis response services. DHHS operates the Crisis Center and staffs one Mobile Crisis Team, which is based in Rockville. The Mobile Crisis Team is a two-person team that responds to calls made directly to the Crisis Center and when the police request their assistance as a part of a police response. Currently, the Mobile Crisis Team can only respond to one call at any time. While work on scaling up this response model is underway, the need has been identified for additional licensed social workers in DHHS to lead additional Mobile Crisis Teams. This special appropriation would fund three social worker positions, so that the hiring process may begin to expand these response teams. The funding includes bi-lingual pay and it is critical

that these positions include those who can serve residents for whom English is not their primary language. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_2F.pdf

Special Appropriation to the County Government's FY20 Operating Budget, Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County Non-Departmental Account (NDA) - \$3,250,000 for Arts Covid-19 Relief Fund

The Council will introduce a special appropriation of \$3,250,000 to support creative professionals and arts and humanities organizations that have been financially impacted by the Covid-19 global pandemic. The special appropriation provides \$250,000 in mini-grants of up to \$3,000 to individual artists and \$3 million in general operating support grants to organizations. Compared to surrounding jurisdictions, Montgomery County's arts and humanities sector has experienced the highest loss in revenue due to canceled performances, exhibitions and events, since Maryland Governor Hogan's Executive Order was issued to close performing and visual arts, concert and film venues as well as museums. This appropriation, which was initiated by Councilmembers Hans Riemer and Evan Glass, is sponsored by the full Council. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for July 7. The Council staff report will be available on June 13.

Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) Covid-19 Recovery Outlook Papers: Small Businesses and Rental Housing Evictions

The Council will receive and release reports from OLO on the County's Covid-19 recovery outlook for small businesses and rental housing evictions. The Council asked OLO to develop a series of short papers that address Covid-19 economic recovery efforts in alignment with the Council's Economic Development Platform. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_2H.pdf

Report of the Charter Review Commission

The Council will receive an update from George Margolies, chair of the Charter Review Commission, on the 2020 Report of the Commission. Christopher Danley, member of the Commission, also will present a minority report of the Commission. The Commission studied Sections 102, 103, and 104 of the Charter with respect to the size and composition of the County Council. The Commission recommends against making any changes to the size and composition of the Council (of four at-large Councilmembers and five district Councilmembers). The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_3.pdf

Subdivision Regulation Amendment 20-01 (SRA) concerning Rules of Interpretation - Computing Time Periods

The Council will introduce SRA 20-01, which would extend the duration of all deadlines and validity periods established for previously approved, unexpired subdivisions by two years. The additional time runs from the period "applicable to the approval." The period or date applicable to the approved application would include any extensions granted by the Planning Board. The extensions apply to unexpired approved applications. Unexpired applications include those applications for which the applicant has made a request for an extension to the Planning Board in a timely manner. Councilmember Hans Riemer is the lead sponsor. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_4A.pdf

Germantown Plan for the Town Sector Zone

The Council will review the [Germantown Plan for the Town Sector Zone](#). The purpose of this master plan is to replace the existing Town Sector zoning with current zoning classifications for the Churchill Village community in Germantown. The master plan recommends appropriate zoning and ways of protecting the community's open space and recreation areas, while maintaining the predominantly residential character of Churchill Village. The plan recommends new zones related to three goals developed during the community

planning process: maintain the residential core, protect open space and recreation areas and support neighborhood-serving commercial uses. The Council is scheduled to vote on this plan on July 21. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_4B.pdf

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and County Public Health Planning

The Council will sit as the Board of Health to receive an update on the County's ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic and its recovery efforts. The County moved into Phase 2 of reopening and recovery on Friday, June 19 at 5 p.m. Those expected to attend the meeting include the following: Dr. Travis Gayles, county health officer and chief of the Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Public Health Services; Dr. Earl Stoddard, director, Office of Emergency management and Homeland Security; and Dr. Raymond Crowel, director, DHHS, are among those expected to attend. The Council staff report will be available here on June 22:

https://montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_AG.pdf

Expedited Bill 25-19, Contracts and Procurement – Local Business Preference Program – Established

The Council is scheduled to vote on Expedited Bill 25-19, which would increase the number of local businesses awarded County contracts and establish a Local Business Preference Program for certain County contracts. The Council President is the lead sponsor, at the request of the County Executive. The goal of this legislation is to support local businesses. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_15A.pdf

Economic Recovery Committees

The Council will receive an update on the County's recovery efforts related to racial equity, public health, economy, community advisory groups, the Q&A team, phase two County reopening, reconstitution of County worksites and childcare. The leaders of the five mission area recovery teams (or their designee) will report on the efforts of each team (and their subgroups), including:

1. Government Operations and Services;
2. Economic Revitalization;
3. Health and Human Services;
4. Housing; and
5. Education.

Councilmembers who are members of the teams may comment as well. The following individuals are expected to participate in the meeting: Fariba Kassiri, deputy chief administrative officer; Jerome Fletcher, assistant chief administrative officer; Tina Benjamin, director, Special Projects, Office of the County Executive; Dr. Raymond Crowel, director, DHHS; Earl Stoddard, director, OEMHS; and Aseem Nigam, director, Department of Housing & Community Affairs. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_16.pdf

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Council public hearings will be held on Tuesday, June 23 at 1:30 p.m.

Special Appropriation to the County Government's FY20 Operating Budget, COVID-19 Human Services and Community Assistance Non-Departmental Account (NDA), Support for COVID-19 Response - \$10,500,000 for Montgomery County Food Security Fund and Amendment to FY20 Operating Budget Resolution 19-128, Section G, FY20 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Award Status: Greater Washington Community Foundation

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation of \$10.5 million to the Human Services and Community Assistance NDA for Montgomery County's Food Security Fund. The full Council is sponsoring this special appropriation. The Covid-19 public health crisis has led to

significantly reduced income for many residents, making it difficult for them to afford basic needs like food. The County Food Security Task Force's Covid-19 Pandemic Food Security Response Strategy identifies strategies to increase food assistance, improve the food distribution methods, ensure that residents are aware of available resources and foster a permanently resilient and equitable food system in Montgomery County. Funding is needed to execute the food security response strategy. This appropriation will provide up to \$500,000 to the Greater Washington Community Foundation to initiate and administer the Montgomery County Food Security Fund, which will accept private donations that will support implementation of the food security response strategy. This appropriation also provides \$10 million to implement the strategy with the goal of raising \$5 million in private donations. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_6.pdf

Special Appropriation to the County Government's FY20 Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) - \$565,706 for Positive Youth Development Program and Amendment to FY20 Operating Budget Resolution 19-128, Section G, FY20 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Award Status: Identity Inc.

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation of \$565,706 to DHHS' FY20 operating budget to provide support services for families in crisis to prevent jeopardizing the safety of vulnerable youth and avoid risky behaviors during these unstructured, tense times. The special appropriation includes \$183,846 for Identity Inc. to provide culturally responsive and trauma-informed services that support at-risk children and their families and \$381,860 to support a family strengthening and intervention program in two targeted communities in the County. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_7.pdf

Supplemental Appropriation to Montgomery College's FY20 Operating Budget - \$1,000,000 for CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a supplemental appropriation to the Montgomery College's FY20 operating budget of one million dollars. This supplemental appropriation is for unplanned expenditures incurred due to the changes in the scope of the standard delivery of face-to-face instruction and working environments. These funds are reimbursable costs under the CARES Act. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_8.pdf

Special Appropriation to the FY20 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) FY20 Operating Budget - \$123,000 for the Verizon Innovative Learning Program Grant

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation to Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) FY20 operating budget of \$123,000 for the Verizon Innovative Learning Program grant. The source of funds is a Digital Promise grant. The Board of Education requested this appropriation on June 11, and the Council introduced this appropriation on June 16. MCPS has received notice from Digital Promise that it will receive \$123,000 for the Verizon Innovative Learning Program in FY20, which will support efforts in creating innovative learning environments in middle schools. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_9.pdf

Special Appropriation to MCPS' FY20 Operating Budget - \$125,000 for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-Part B Grant

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) FY20 operating budget of \$125,000 for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B grant. The source of funds is a Maryland State Department of Education grant. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_10.pdf

Special Appropriation to MCPS' FY20 Operating Budget - \$202,805 for the Head Start State Supplemental Continuation Grant

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation to MCPS' FY20 operating budget of \$202,805 for the Head Start State Supplemental Continuation Grant. MCPS has received notice from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that it will receive \$202,805 for the Head Start State Supplemental Continuation grant in FY20, which will expand and improve existing services. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_11.pdf

Special Appropriation to MCPS' FY20 Capital Budget and Amendment to the FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program - \$1,281,117 for the Technology Modernization Project

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation to MCPS' FY20 capital budget for the Technology Modernization project. The source of funds is Federal E-Rate reimbursement. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_12.pdf

Special Appropriation to MCPS' FY20 Operating Budget - \$24,768,196 for CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation to MCPS' FY20 Operating Budget of \$24,768,196 for the CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund. The Board of Education requested this appropriation on June 11. MCPS has received notice from the state that it will receive this federal CARES Act emergency relief funding in Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20).

Under the U.S. Department of Education awarded grants for the purpose of providing Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) with emergency relief funds to address the impact of Covid-19 on elementary and secondary schools across the nation. LEAs must provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools from the ESSER Fund as required by provisions in the CARES Act. MCPS will use ESSER funds to extend access to interventions, special education services, assistive technology tools and increased technology options for students with disabilities during distance learning. In addition, these funds will be used to purchase supplemental instructional materials and assessments to support the instruction of students in English for Speakers of Other Languages programs, and to support efforts to increase the number of students attaining proficiency in academic English, reading, language arts and mathematics. Finally, MCPS will use these funds to ensure equity of access, including the internet and devices, for all staff and students who need it to effectively engage in remote learning experiences. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_13.pdf

Special Appropriation to the County Government's FY20 Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services - \$2,622,961 for Federal Older Americans CARES and Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) Grants

The Council will hold a public hearing and is scheduled to vote on a special appropriation of \$2,622,961 to DHHS' FY20 operating budget. The County will receive \$628,453 from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and \$1,994,508 from Title III of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for services outlined in the Older Americans Act for nutrition services, supportive services, and family caregiver support service. DHHS plans to use the full amount for the senior nutrition program. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2020/20200623/20200623_14.pdf

COMMITTEES

Maryland Tech Council - Business Continuity Task Force

On Monday, June 22 at 9 a.m. the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee will receive a briefing from the Maryland Technology Council (MTC) about its Business Continuity Task Force. In addition, the committee will review a \$250,000 special appropriation the Council introduced on June 9, 2020 to support this initiative in the County. The funding supports staff salary, outreach and administrative costs for the program in the County. MTC estimates that approximately 65 to 80 County businesses will receive support based on the \$250,000 funding level. The Business Continuity Task Force will provide technical experience for small and mid-size technology and life sciences businesses in the County to aid in navigating the economic landscape that has been shaped by the global pandemic. The support will include assistance to retain and rehire staff, maintain revenue streams and access capital. Those expected to provide information at the meeting include Martin Rosendale, CEO, Maryland Technology Council and Tina Benjamin, special projects manager, Office of the County Executive. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200622/20200622_PHED1.pdf

Housing Opportunities Commission Housing Production Fund

The PHED Committee will receive an update from the Housing Opportunities Commission on the Housing Production Fund. PHED Committee Chair Riemer has been working with HOC to develop a proposal for a this fund, which would receive \$3.4 million in County funding annually (\$2.8 million in year one) to support HOC's debt service on a bond issuance of \$50 million. These funds would be used by HOC for construction-period bridge financing for new, mixed-income housing developments. Once the project is complete and re-financed, the funds would revolve to give HOC capacity to continue with other new projects. This would not be County debt and would not be a commitment in the County's debt service budget. The following individuals are expected to participate in the meeting: Roy Priest, chair, HOC; Linda Croom, resident commissioner, HOC; Stacy Spann, executive director, HOC; Kayrine Brown, chief investment and real estate officer, HOC; Zachary Marks, director of development real estate, HOC; Shane Pollin, vice president of development, Duffie Companies; McLean Quinn, president, EYA; and Bob Youngentob, CEO, EYA. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200622/20200622_PHED2.pdf

Department of Housing and Community Affairs: Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund

The PHED Committee will receive an update from the Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA) on the department's current plans for the Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund. The Executive's Recommended Capital Improvements Program (CIP) included \$10 million in expenditures in fiscal years 2021 and 2022 to leverage non-county government funding to create an Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund for the preservation and development of affordable housing.

The PHED Committee reviewed this proposal with DHCA at its February 13, 2020 meeting. The Committee expected to return to further review this proposal in its Committee worksession on the Housing Initiative Fund. However, because of the COVID-19 emergency, the Council had to adopt a budget process that did not have Committee sessions, and so there was not an opportunity for further discussions on the expected structure and guidelines for this fund. Additionally, the Council's final actions on the CIP reduced the amount of funding to \$8 million in fiscal year 2021 and \$6 million in fiscal year 2022 because of the need to reduce the use of current revenue throughout the CIP. Because the Committee and Council did not have time to better understand this proposal, the Council did not appropriate the fiscal year 2021 funding. A supplemental appropriation will be needed to give DHCA the authority to spend the funding; however, the source of funding is assumed in the expenditure schedule. The following individuals are expected to participate in the meeting: Aseem Nigam, director, DHCA; Frank Demarais, deputy director, DHCA; and Pofen Salem, Office of Management and Budget. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200622/20200622_PHED3.pdf

Special Appropriation - \$24,768,196 for CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

On Monday, June 22 at 1:30 p.m. the Education and Culture (E&C) Committee will review a \$24,768,196 special appropriation for the CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). The Council is scheduled to hold a public hearing and vote on this special appropriation on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. For more information, see page four of this document. The following individuals will participate in the meeting: Dr. Jack Smith, superintendent of schools; Dr. Monifa McKnight, deputy superintendent of schools; and Dan Marella, chief financial officer, MCPS. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200622/20200622_EC1.pdf

MCPS Recovery of Education Plan

The E&C Committee will conclude its meeting with a review of the MCPS Recovery of Education Plan, which the Board of Education received on June 11, 2020. Additionally, since the future of education in Maryland will be shaped substantially by the eventual outcome of the Kirwan Commission recommendations, Council staff will update the Committee on the status and contents of the Kirwan legislation at the state level. MCPS has also been asked to discuss whether they are seeing any new or emerging career pathways that have come into prominence due to the pandemic. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2020/20200622/20200622_EC2.pdf

Open Streets

On Wednesday, June 24 at 2 p.m. the Transportation and Environment (T&E) and PHED Committees will meet jointly to receive a briefing on open streets. The Council staff report will be available on June 22.

Bill 7-20, Interagency Commission on Homelessness – Membership and Duties

On Thursday, June 25 at 9:30 a.m., the Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee will review Bill 7-20, which would alter the membership and duties of the Interagency Commission on Homelessness. Councilmembers Evan Glass, Gabe Albornoz and Craig Rice are the lead sponsors. All other Councilmembers are cosponsors. The Interagency Commission on Homelessness (ICH) is a 25-member commission created by the Council in 2014 to coordinate public and private programs to reduce homelessness in the County. The ICH has requested that several modifications and updates be made to its membership and duties. The purpose of these amendments is to improve the governance and effectiveness of the ICH, as well as to clarify the mission of the ICH to “end and prevent” homelessness, as opposed to simply reducing homelessness. Under Bill 7-20, the ICH would remain a 25-member commission, but its composition would change. At the request of the ICH, certain ex officio slots would be replaced with more public representatives, including homeless service providers, healthcare providers, family services providers and affordable housing providers. The Council staff report will be available on June 23.

Overview of Findings from WMCOG Point-in-Time County 2020 and Update on Housing for All

The HHS Committee also will receive an overview of the findings of the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments’ [Point-in-Time 2020 count of homeless individuals in the region](#). The Council staff report will be available on June 23.

Moving People into Permanent Housing During the Covid-19 Health Emergency

The HHS Committee also will review plans to move residents experiencing homelessness or living in transitional housing into permanent housing during the Covid-19 public health crisis. The Council staff report will be available on June 23.

Proposal from Bethesda Cares for Veteran and Vulnerable Unsheltered Single Adults

The HHS Committee will review a proposal from Bethesda Cares for housing veteran and vulnerable unsheltered single adults. The Council staff report will be available on June 23.

Recovery Framework: Homeless Crisis Response and Eviction and Homelessness Prevention

The HHS Committee will close out its meeting with an update on the County's recovery framework for homeless crisis response and eviction and homelessness prevention. The Council staff report will be available on June 23.

Bill 8-20, E-Scooters - Operating Requirements and Registration

On Thursday, June 25 at 1:30 p.m., the T&E and Public Safety Committees will meet jointly to review Bill 8-20. Council President Sidney Katz is the lead sponsor. Councilmember Gabe Alborno is a cosponsor. Bill 8-20 would do the following: update the definition of bicycle to conform to state law; permit a person to register a bicycle or electric low-speed scooter (e-scooter) owned by a County resident for personal use; require the registration of an e-scooter provided for rent in the County and pay a registration fee; establish operating requirements for e-scooter use in the County; and generally amend County law governing bicycle and e-scooter use in the County. The Council staff report will be available on June 23.